

REMARKS

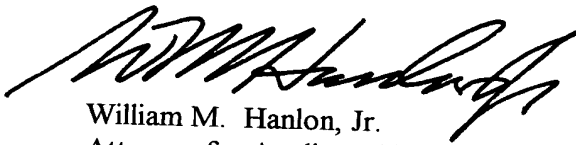
After entry of this amendment, claims 1-10 are pending in the application. Claims 1-8 have been amended. Claims 9-10 have been added in this amendment.

A handwritten, corrected copy of the specification is enclosed showing the changes which have been made to the specification as required by Section 608.01(Q) and 714.20(1) of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure. The Substitute Specification filed herewith has been amended to utilize idiomatic English, correct minor typographical and grammatical errors and to conform the application to current United States patent practice. The Substitute Specification includes no new subject matter; but does include the same changes handwritten in red in the attached, corrected, original specification. Entry of the Substitute Specification is respectfully requested.

It is submitted that this Amendment has antecedent basis in the application as originally filed, including the specification, claims and drawings, and that this Amendment does not add any new subject matter to the application. Consideration of the application as amended is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the specification:

An abstract is submitted herewith.

In the claims:

1. (Amended) [Wiper] A wiper blade for cleaning a windshield[, in particular, a curved windshield] of a vehicle with a frame, and with at least two claws [(5)] to hold and guide a rubber-like wiper element [(6)], where the frame has at least one claw bow [(4)] with a claw [(5)] on at least one end of the bow and the claw bow [(4)] can be connected at a distance (D) from the claw [(5)] by means of a pivot [(15)] to one of a wiper arm [(1) or is connected] and to an additional bow [(2, 3)] on the frame, where the claw [(5)] has, at the claw base [(8)], a bearing surface [(8a)] which presses on the upper side of the wiper element [(6)] when the windshield wiper is operating, which surface is delimited in the longitudinal direction of the frame by an outer edge [(11a)] and an inner edge [(11b)] and has a maximum length (L), and where two claw sidewalls [(9)] which turn into claw fingers [(10, 13, 14)] extend from the claw base [(8)] toward the windshield to be wiped running along the opposite longitudinal sides of the wiper element [(6)] and where the claw fingers capture the rear body [(6a)] forming part of the wiper element [(6)] from one of below [or]and engage longitudinal side grooves in the rear body [(6)], where the claw fingers [(10, 13, 14)] are bounded in the longitudinal direction of the bow and are each[/both] delimited by an outer edge [(12a)] and an inner edge [(12b)], characterized in that the claw fingers [(10)] of at least one claw [(5)] on the windshield wiper [(2)] are offset in the longitudinal direction in relation to the contact surface [(8a)] toward the pivot [(15)] of the claw bow [(4)] in such a way that the outer edges [(12a)] of the claw feet [(10)] are located within an area which extends from inclusive of half of the maximum length (L) of the contact surface [(8a)] as far as the distance between the inner edge [(11b)] of the contact surface [(8a)] and the pivot [(15)] of the claw bow [(4)].

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2. (Amended) [Wiper]The wiper blade in accordance with claim 1, where between the inner edge [(11b)] of the contact surface [(8a)] and the outer edges [(12a)] of the claw fingers [(10, 13, 14)] a gap d is present with d equal to or less than zero.

3. (Amended) [Wiper]The wiper blade in accordance with claim 1 [or 2], where, in a side view of the wiper blade, the two claw fingers [(10)] are aligned with each other [or where the distance d in the case of the two claw fingers (10) is the same].

4. (Amended) [Wiper]The wiper blade in accordance with claim 1 [or 2,] where the claw finger [(13)] is offset in the longitudinal direction in relation to the claw finger [(14)] or where the distance d1 of one claw finger (13) is different from the distance d2 of the other claw finger (14)].

5. (Amended) [Wiper]The wiper blade in accordance with claim 4, where the wiper element [(6)] is curved in plan view and where the distance d1 of one claw finger [(13)] on the side which lies on the outside of the wiper element curvature is less than the distance d2 on the other claw side [(14)] which lies on the inside of the wiper element curvature.

6. (Amended) [Wiper]The wiper blade in accordance with claim 5, where the distances d1 and d2 are dependent on the degree of curvature of the wiper element [(6)] in plan view.

7. (Amended) [Wiper]The wiper blade in accordance with [one of the preceding claims,] claim 1 where one of the side of the claw base [(8)] facing the wiper element [(6)] is curved in relation to the claw fingers [(10, 13, 14)] and/or and the claw fingers [(10, 13, 14)] have a convex curve in relation to the claw base [(8)].

10070066-022602

8. (Amended) [Wiper]The wiper blade in accordance with [one of the preceding claims]claim 1, where at least one claw [(5)] on the claw bow [(4)] is a windshield wiper end claw.

New claims 9 and 10 are submitted herein.

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